

Wellesley College Wellesley College Digital Scholarship and Archive

Papers of Anne Whitney (MSS.4): Correspondence

Papers of Anne Whitney (MSS.4)

2-6-1912

Letter from Anne Whitney, Boston, Massachusetts, to Antoinette Rotan Peterson, New York, New York, 1912 February 6

Anne Whitney

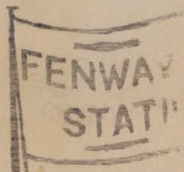
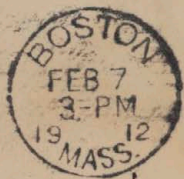
Wellesley College Archives

Follow this and additional works at: https://repository.wellesley.edu/whitney_correspondence

Recommended Citation

Whitney, Anne and Wellesley College Archives, "Letter from Anne Whitney, Boston, Massachusetts, to Antoinette Rotan Peterson, New York, New York, 1912 February 6" (1912). *Papers of Anne Whitney (MSS.4): Correspondence*. 1043.
https://repository.wellesley.edu/whitney_correspondence/1043

This Correspondence is brought to you for free and open access by the Papers of Anne Whitney (MSS.4) at Wellesley College Digital Scholarship and Archive. It has been accepted for inclusion in Papers of Anne Whitney (MSS.4): Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Wellesley College Digital Scholarship and Archive. For more information, please contact ir@wellesley.edu.



Mrs. Frederick Peterson
535 Park Ave.
New York City

that member. I didn't
 in truth write because I
 expected not to hear from
 you under the conditions -
 & you have trampled on
 my good intentions & written
 with pain held up your
 hand! Send me an illuminating
 post-card now & then, why
 not? They are more elegant
 than beams of falsehood -
 sometimes. I ~~sent~~ cabled Olive
 last week - to say that I hadn't
 heard from her for a month.
 Meanwhile a letter came. But
 what could I say to such purpose
 in a half dozen sheets as in
 that half doz. words? She - Olive
 remains in the same place in
 which she slept in Oct. or Nov.
 in a little house whose mistress

Boston - 535 Beacon St.
 Feb. 6 -/12

Dear Escalante -

If you
 have not heard from me
 of late, assign all imaginable
 reasons for it - almost any
 or all will be valid - Have
 one - & that is, that under
 any conceivable circumstances
 I could let slip from
 heart or memory my
 grateful sense of the
 late treasure I possess
 in you & Dr. Friedrichs

constant kindness & affection.

Let us sit awhile
& chat. How good it seems!
Out of the crowd surrounding
us - if we can pick out
here & there a friend to whom
we can speak such cups
of refreshment & assist
leagues of Sahara. How
many things are happening,
have happened in the last
few months! There is no end
of themes - of events - it is
only time that is lacking for
their proper consideration - ^{of each} ~~them~~
its adjustment & settlement, before
the curtain is rung down &
the next comes treading upon the

2/
heels of its successor. In the
midst of the confusion & seeming
riot of reason, who has the
vision, I suppose, may detect
a certain drift & direction
& even perhaps a goal. If you
were ever afloat on the Mississippi
you noticed the - I forget what
they were called - shoals, possibly -
they were in fact straight
cuts by which the river
shortened its journey to the
gulf. & this or something
like it is going on now in
the mill-city of Lawrence.
30,000 more or less of
human beings, bound face
to face hither to - as long as

~~they might endure it,~~ ^{they might endure it,} with
the gaunt specter of starvation,
have at last laid hold of
the bludgeon of revolution
a thousand fold success to them!
This is their short cut - to
the sea - Meanwhile they
are bayoneted & shot / taking
the risk / & ^{this} is better
than the slow gnawings of
hunger - by which ~~and~~ they
do, sooner or later arrive at
the comfortable spread of
death, ~~to be sure~~. What it
must be to have no other

outlook upon life than this!
A little half dozen or so - of
things whose horizon is bounded
by creaking dividends - holds with

3 - a gentle English maiden, -
makes her comfortable within
doors - while golf and country
tramps help her to health
without - She has not quite
reached the point she believed
to be in sight - 3 months ago -
but writes in this last letter
that her improvement is
not to be questioned - or to
that effect. There is no
reason to doubt, I think that
she is in a more serene -
a happier frame of mind
since she touched the other
shore than she had been
for years before. And
much as the friends by
whom she is so beloved

may desire her back again
if they are, or if they weigh
the case, as I, they will
far rather she found peace
& even a measurable freedom
from bodily hindrance
in a long absence, than that
she should risk a return
to the old conditions. Yes -
I also think, that Mrs. Oliver's
power of drawing to herself
the affection & warm
interest of those with whom
she is thrown even casually,
is most unusual. She offers
in hardly the explanation - I
know no one who seems to me
to have such a capacity for
love.

And now - tho I seem
to have said the ~~most~~
possible of what I wanted
to say to you my dear, I
will say no more - I will
stop - I think of you all
as ever with continually
increasing interest & pleasure in
my share of you. I am
most glad that your two
genial & bright children
make the home a delight -
and along with them I
recall the kindly sweet
impression the warm-hearted
mother of Dr. Todd gave me.
Will you please bear
in mind that from now on

we are to indulge in
miserable games of Post-Cards
let the world wag as it
will.?

Your Anne M.

the help of gold^d this tortured
bull at bay - What a gold^d -
is ours, which stupidly ignores
the fact that the only way
out of this thing - is to inquire
into a deeper grievance. It
is maddening to think of these
things - and we had best
stop - at least until your
winter's work bears fruit -
& women have a chance.
It is refreshing to know what
you & your N. Y. women
are doing - You my beloved
Antoinette with your disabled
arm! I am & have been
greatly troubled since it was
told me that you were -
in some way suffering in